United Nations S/2009/573

Security Council

Distr.: General
4 November 2009

Original: English

Letter dated 3 November 2009 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to convey the attached letter dated 26 October 2009, from Hoshyar Zebari, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, regarding the attacks which took place in Baghdad on 19 August and 25 October 2009 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council, as requested by Foreign Minister Zebari.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

09-59401 (E) 051109

Please recycle

Annex

Letter dated 26 October 2009 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]

I refer to the letter of 30 August 2009 addressed to you by the Prime Minister regarding the terrorist attack of 19 August 2009 on Baghdad, which targeted Iraqi Government institutions, and to our letter of 25 September 2009, also addressed to you and with regard to the same subject, in which we conveyed the desire of the Iraqi Government for a high-level international envoy to be dispatched to assess the extent of foreign involvement in terrorist acts committed in Iraq and their impact on its stability and security.

However, before either you or the Security Council could take any practical measures, Baghdad was once again the target of two simultaneous terrorist attacks on 25 October 2009. The attacks, which killed and injured a large number of innocent civilians, targeted Government institutions in the same manner and at the same time of day as the terrorist attacks of 19 August 2009. This confirms our previous assertion that the aim of those criminal actions is to paralyse the Iraqi State and its institutions and to abort the democratic political process under way in Iraq, thereby gravely undermining its security and stability and having an adverse affect on regional security and stability. These attacks should be investigated because they are a threat to international peace and security and because the security situation in Iraq, which is regarded as the forward battleground in the global war against terrorism, is of great concern to the international community, as evidenced by the relevant Security Council resolutions.

We should therefore like to reiterate Iraq's request for a high-level international envoy to be appointed to assess the extent of foreign involvement in terrorist acts committed in Iraq. We further reiterate that organized attacks of such size and complexity could not have been planned, funded and executed without significant support from outside parties.

While bringing this matter to your attention, we request that it should also be brought to the attention of the Security Council as soon as possible, so that appropriate action to deter terrorism and its sponsors may be taken.

(*Signed*) Hoshyar **Zebari**
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq